



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

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**NOVEMBER 18, 2004**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **JOPLIN MAN INDICTED FOR GROWING 100 MARIJUANA PLANTS**

**SPRINGFIELD, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Joplin, Mo., man was indicted by a federal grand jury today for manufacturing 100 or more marijuana plants.

**Michael S. Holden**, 27, of Joplin, Mo., was charged in a two-count indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Springfield.

Count One of the federal indictment alleges that **Holden** manufactured 100 or more marijuana plants on July 6, 2004, in Newton County, Mo.

Count Two of the federal indictment alleges that **Holden** possessed with intent to distribute 100 or more marijuana plants on July 6, 2004, in Newton County, Mo.

This case is being prosecuted by Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Kimberly R. Weber Dean. It was investigated by the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Missouri State Highway Patrol, the Newton County, Mo., Sheriff's Department, the Jasper County Drug Task Force and the Southwest Missouri Drug Task Force.

Graves cautioned that the charges contained in this indictment are simply accusations and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charges must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

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This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

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